Prime Minister's US visit

1153. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agenda of the visit of the Prime Minister to USA recently;

(b) the details of the bilateral and multilateral issues that figured in Prime Minister's talks with the US President and the other leaders and the outcome of the talks;

(c) whether the issue of India's membership in the security council of the UN was also figured in the talks; if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any agreements were signed during the visit to strengthen further the bilateral ties and the scientific and economic cooperation between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH:) (a) and (b) Prime Minister visited the United States at the invitation of President Bush from 17—20 July 2005. The agenda for discussions included strengthening of bilateral relations; building on common values and interests; enhancing cooperation for the economy, for energy and environment, for democracy and development, for non-proliferation and security and for high technology, space and civilian nuclear energy. Regional and global issues of significance were also discussed. A Joint Statement was issued at the conclusion of the talks that reflect its outcome.

(c) India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council was taken up during the talks. President Bush expressed the view that international institutions are going to have to adapt to reflect India's central and growing role.

(d) and (e) No agreements were signed during the visit.